

January 8, 2004

209819

VIA U.P.S. OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Surface Transportation Board Section of Environmental Analysis 1925 "K" St., N.W., Room 504 Washington, DC 20423-0001

ATTN: Victoria Rutson

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JAN - 9 2004

Part of Public Record



RE:

Proposed Abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead from M. P. 409.1 near Frankfort to M. P. 403.8 near Vliets, a distance of 5.3 miles in Marshall

County, Kansas; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 172X)

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket is the original and ten (10) copies of a Combined Environmental and Historic Report prepared pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.7 and §1105.8, with a Certificate of Service, and a transmittal letter pursuant to 9 C.F.R. §1105.11. Three (3) computer diskettes of the Combined Environmental and Historic Report are also enclosed.

Union Pacific Railroad Company anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption in this matter on or after January 29, 2004.

Sincerely yours,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.

Sénior General Attorney

Enclosures

O:\ABANDON\33-172X\STBNOE,WPD

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney, Law Department

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD 101 N. Wacker Dr., Rm. 1920, Chicago, IL 60606-1718 ph. (312) 777-2055 fx. (312) 777-2065 BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 172X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION -IN MARSHALL COUNTY, KANSAS
(VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD)



Combined Environmental and Historic Report

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY Mack H. Shumate, Jr., Senior General Attorney 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 777-2055 (312) 777-2065 FAX

Dated: Filed:

January 8, 2004 January 9, 2004

BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD



UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION -IN MARSHALL COUNTY, KANSAS
(VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD)



Combined Environmental and Historic Report

Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") submits this Combined Environmental and Historic Report pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e) and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d), respectively, for an exempt abandonment and discontinuance of service from M.P. 409.10 near Frankfort to M. P. 403.80 near Vliets, a distance of 5.30 miles, in Marshall County, Kansas (the "Line"). The Line traverses U. S. Postal Service Zip Codes 66427 and 66544.

The applicants anticipate that a Petition For Exemption to abandon the Line will be filed at the STB on or after January 29, 2004.

A map of the Line marked **Attachment No. 1** is attached hereto and hereby made part hereof. UP's letters to federal, state and local government agencies, marked **Attachment No. 2** and **Attachment No. 3**, are attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof. Responses received to UP's letters to date are attached and sequentially numbered as indicated below.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)

(1) **Proposed action and alternatives**. Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rail line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable, detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

Response: The proposed action involves the abandonment and discontinuance of service over the Vliets Industrial Lead from M.P. 409.10 near Frankfort to M.P. 403.80 near Vliets, a distance of 5.30 miles, in Marshall County, Kansas. The sole active customer on the Line had been Beattie Farmers Union Cooperative Association, 104 Railroad Avenue, Frankfort, KS 66427. This customer utilized a track near the beginning of the Line in Frankfort for the receipt of fertilizer. The last shipment destined to this track was billed in January, 2003. Beattie has since commenced the receipt of fertilizer at another track in Frankfort served from UP's Kansas Subdivision. Beattie had no shipments in the year 2001; 2 cars of diammonium phosphate, STCC 2871235, totaling 194 tons in the year 2002, and 1 car of diammonium phosphate, STCC 2871235, totaling 97 tons along with 1 car of monoammonium phosphate, STCC 2871236, totaling 96 tons in the year 2003. Beattie does not oppose the proposed abandonment. Due to the relocation of this sole customer and its continuing ability to use rail service via UP, there will be no adverse shipper impact due to the proposed abandonment.

There appears to be no reasonable alternative to the abandonment. There will be no adverse effect on the sole shipper, and present development trends in Marshall County, Kansas make it unlikely that a new rail user would locate in the area of the

proposed abandonment. There is no overhead traffic on the Line. With the departure of the sole shipper, no train service is operated on the Line at present.

The Vliets Industrial Lead was constructed in 1868 by the Central Branch Union Pacific Railroad. The Line is constructed with 112-pound continuous welded rail, except for the first mile, which is laid with 85-pound jointed rail.

The property is not suitable for other public purposes including roads or highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, or recreation, as this area is adequately served by existing roads and utility lines at the present time. The main area highways are state route 99, a north-south route running through Frankfort and connecting approximately twelve miles north to U.S. 36, an east-west route; and state route 9, running through Frankfort and connecting approximately twelve miles west to U.S. 77, a north-south route.

The land proposed for abandonment is reversionary in nature. Based on information in our possession, the Line does not contain federally granted right-of-way. Any documentation UP's possession will be made available to those requesting it.

A map of the Line is attached as Attachment No. 1.

(2) **Transportation system**. Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns. Estimate the amount of traffic (passenger or freight) that will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed action.

Response: Given the continuation of rail service to the current customer, there should be no impact on regional or local transportation systems or patterns, and thresholds for rail to truck diversion and changes in rail activity are not applicable since there is no longer traffic on the Line.

- (3) **Land use**. (i) Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.
- (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

 (iii) If the action effects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by § 1105.9.

(iv) If the proposed action is an abandonment, state whether or not the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 and explain why.

Response: (i) Applicants are unaware of any adverse effects on local and existing land use plans. The Marshall County Commissioners Office has been contacted.

To date no response has been received.

(ii) The United States Natural Resources Conservation Service has been contacted. To date no response has been received.

- (iii) Not Applicable.
- (iv) Given the absence of any customer activity on the Line, abandonment will free right-of-way in Marshall County, Kansas for desirable alternate development.
- (4) **Energy**. (i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.
- (ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities.
- (iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.
- (iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:
 - (A) 1,000 rail carloads a year, or

(B) an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected Line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given.

Response: (i) There will be no effects on the transportation of energy resources.

- (ii) There are no recyclable commodities moved over the Line.
- (iii) There will be no increase in energy consumption from the

abandonment.

(iv)(A)(B) There will be no rail-to-motor diversion of this

magnitude.

(5) Air. (i) If the proposed action will result in either:

(A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 100% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least eight trains a day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposal, or

(B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100% (measured by carload activity), or

(C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment, quantify the anticipated effect on air emissions. For a proposal under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or § 10505) to construct a new line or reinstitute service over a previously abandoned line, only the eight train a day provision in §§ (5)(i)(A) will apply.

Response: There is no such effect anticipated.

(5) **Air**. (ii) If the proposed action affects a class 1 or nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act, and will result in either:

(A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 50% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least three trains a day on any segment of rail line, or

(B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 20% (measured by carload activity), or

(C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on a given road segment, then state whether any expected increased emissions are within the parameters established by the State Implementation Plan. However, for a rail construction under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or 49 U.S.C. § 10505), or a case involving the reinstitution of service over a previously abandoned line, only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply.

Response: There will be no increase in rail traffic, rail yard activity, or truck traffic as a result of the proposed action.

(5) **Air**. (iii) If transportation of ozone depleting materials (such as nitrogen oxide and freon) is contemplated, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and spills; contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of ozone depleting materials in the event of a collision or derailment.

Response: The proposed action will not affect the transportation of ozone depleting materials.

- (6) **Noise**. If any of the thresholds identified in item (5)(i) of this section are surpassed, state whether the proposed action will cause:
 - (i) an incremental increase in noise levels of three decibels Ldn

or more or

(ii) an increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area and quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed.

Response: Not applicable.

- (7) **Safety**. (i) Describe any effects of the proposed action on public health and safety (including vehicle delay time at railroad grade crossings).
- (ii) If hazardous materials are expected to be transported, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; whether chemicals are being transported that, if mixed, could react to form more hazardous compounds; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and hazardous spills; the contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials.

(iii) If there are any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved.

Response: (i) The proposed action will have no detrimental effects on public health and safety.

- (ii) The proposed action will not affect the transportation of hazardous materials.
- (iii) There are no known hazardous material waste sites or sites where known hazardous material spills have occurred on or along the subject right-of-way.
- (8) **Biological resources**. (i) Based on consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects.

(ii) State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

Response: (i) The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been contacted. The results of the State of Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks review in 2001 indicated that there will be no significant impacts to crucial wildlife habitats and that no mitigation measures are recommended. In 2003, the Fish and Wildlife Service Kansas Field Office reconfirmed that there should be no adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources, including threatened and endangered species and had no objection to the proposed abandonment. The Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks and the Fish and Wildlife Service Kansas Field Office responses are attached as Attachment No. 4 and Attachment No. 5, respectively, and are hereby made part hereof.

- (ii) Applicants are not aware of any wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, or of any National or State parks or forests, that will be affected by the proposed abandonment.
- (9) **Water**. (i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.
- (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.
- (iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)

Resources has been contacted and their response is attached as **Attachment No. 6**, and is hereby made part hereof. It is not anticipated that abandonment will include the construction of any facility, levee, flood plain, fill or other structure which controls, regulates or changes flood waters in the state of Kansas nor is the construction of a dam contemplated.

(ii) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been contacted and determined that an Army permit authorization is not required in for the proposed abandonment. The Corps of Engineers response is attached as **Attachment No. 7**, and is hereby made part hereof.

(iii) It is not anticipated there will be any requirements for Section 404 permits.

(10) **Proposed Mitigation**. Describe any actions that are proposed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, indicating why the proposed mitigation is appropriate.

Response: There are no known adverse environmental impacts.

HISTORIC REPORT 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d)

(1) A U.S.G.S. topographic map (or an alternate map drawn to scale and sufficiently detailed to show buildings and other structures in the vicinity of the proposed action) showing the location of the proposed action, and the locations and approximate dimensions of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older and are part of the proposed action:

Response: See Attachment No. 1.

(2) A written description of the right-of-way (including approximate widths to the extent known), and the topography and urban and/or rural characteristics of the surrounding area:

Response: The right-of-way is typically 100 feet in width and level. The property is primarily rolling agricultural land in a lightly populated rural area of Kansas.

(3) Good quality photographs (actual photographic prints, not photocopies) of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area:

Response: The Kansas State Historical Society Office was provided with photographs of the five applicable railroad bridges. A copy of the letter to the Historical Society and pictures are attached hereto as **Attachment No. 8**, and hereby made a part hereof. The Historical Society's response which finds that the abandonment should not affect any property listed in the National Register of Historic Places is attached hereto as **Attachment No. 9**, and hereby made a part hereof.

(4) The date(s) of construction of the structure(s), and the date(s) and extent of any major alterations to the extent such information is known:

Response: The bridges and their dates of construction are listed on the map, Attachment No. 1, and in the letter, Attachment No 8.

(5) A brief narrative history of carrier operations in the area, and an explanation of what, if any, changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action:

Response: See the preceding pages for a brief history and description of carrier operations.

(6) A brief summary of documents in the carrier's possession, such as engineering drawings, that might be useful in documenting a structure that is found to be historic:

Response: Not applicable.

(7) An opinion (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) as to whether the site and/or structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (36 C.F.R. § 60.4), and whether there is a likelihood of archeological resources or any other previously unknown historic properties in the project area, and the basis for these opinions (including any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office, local historical societies or universities):

Response: At this time, UP knows of no historic sites or structures or archeological resources on the Line or in the project area. UP believes that there is nothing in the scope of the project that merits historical comment and that any archeological sites within the scope of the right-of-way would have previously been disturbed during the construction and maintenance of the Line.

(8) A description (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) of any known prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, environmental conditions (naturally occurring or manmade) that might affect the archeological recovery of resources (such as swampy conditions or the presence of toxic wastes), and the surrounding terrain:

Response: Applicants do not have any such readily available information.

(9) Within 30 days of receipt of the historic report, the State Historic Preservation Officer may request the following additional information regarding specified nonrailroad owned properties or group of properties immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way. Photographs of specified properties that can be readily seen from the railroad

right-of-way (or other public rights-of-way adjacent to the property) and a written description of any previously discovered archeological sites, identifying the locations and type of the site (i.e., prehistoric or native American):

Response: Not applicable.

Dated this 8th day of January, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

Mack H. Shumate, Jr. Senior General Attorney

101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920

Chicago, Illinois 60606

(312) 777-2055

(312) 777-2065 FAX

O:\ABANDONMENTS\33-172x\EHR.wpd

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF THE COMBINED ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC REPORT

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing Combined Environmental and Historic Report in Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 172X) for the Vliets Industrial Lead in Marshall County, Kansas was served by first class mail on the 8th day of January, 2004 on the following:

State Clearinghouse (or alternate):

Transportation Planning Bureau Kansas Department of Transportation Docking State Office Building 915 West Harrison Topeka, KS 66612

Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604

State Environmental Protection Agency:

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Forbes Field, Bldg. 740 Topeka, KS 66620

State Coastal Zone Management Agency

(if applicable): Not Applicable

Head of County (Planning):

County Commissioners Marshall County Courthouse 1201 Broadway Marysville, KS 66508-1844

Environmental Protection Agency

(regional office):

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, KS 66101

U.S. Fish and Wildlife:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 6 Assistant Regional Director Box 25486 Denver Federal Center Denver, CO 80225

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Engineer Division - Kansas City District 700 Federal Building Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

National Park Service:

National Park Service
William D. Shaddox
Chief, Land Resources Division
1849 "C" St., N. W., #MS3540
Washington, DC 20240

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service:

Natural Resource Conservation Service 501 State Westmorland, KS 66549

National Geodetic Survey:

National Geodetic Survey Edward J. McKay, Chief Spatial Reference System Division NOAA N/NGS2 1315 E-W Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

State Historic Preservation Office:

Kansas State Historical Society 6425 SW Sixth Avenue Topeka, KS 66615

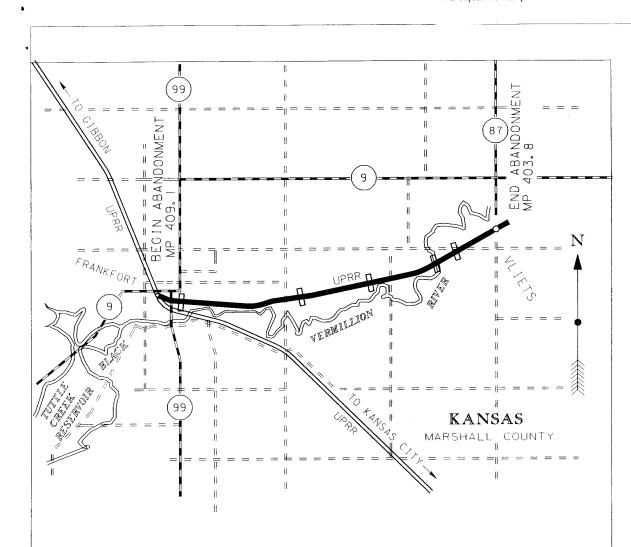
Other Agencies Consulted:

Wildlife & Parks Department 900 Southwest Jackson Street, \$502 N Topeka, KS 66612

Water Resources Division 921 S. Kansas Ave., FI 2 Topeka, KS 66612

Dated this 8th day of January, 2004

Mack H. Shumate Jr.



| i | BRIDGE NO. | BRIDGE TYPE | TOTAL LENGTH | DATE |
|---|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | 404.70 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 27* | 1950 |
| | 405.00 | TIMBER PILE TRES /THRU-PL.G. O.D. | 176' | 1940 |
| | 406.00 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 126' | 1923 |
| | 407.00 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 42' | REBUILT 1943 |
| | | TIMBER PILE TRES. / TST OPEN DECK | 34" | 1963 |
| | 408.50 | DECK PLATE TRES. /D. P. G. OPEN DECK | 52* | 1897 |
| | | TIMBED DILE THES /TST OPEN DECK | 37' | 1963 |

VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD

MP 403.80 TO MP 409.1 VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD A TOTAL OF 5.30 MILES IN MARSHALL COUNTY, KS.

| STATION | MILE POST | AGENCY |
|---------|-----------|--------|
| VLIETS | 404,00 | NO |

| L E | GEND | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| | UPRR LINES TO BE ABANDONE | D | |
| | UPRR LINES | UNION PACIFIC RAILROAL | D CO. |
| | OTHER RAILROADS | VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LE | EAD |
| | 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES | INCL. 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTU | JRES |
| | PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS | | MILES |
| = = = = | OTHER ROADS | Revised 10-23-03 at | |

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

R. M. (Bob) Grimaila Assistant Vice President-Environmental (402) 271-4344

L. A. (Lanny) Schmid Director Environmental Field Operations (402) 271-2262

J. R. (Joel) Strafelda Program Manager-Site Remediation (402) 271-6572



Room 930 1416 Dodge Street Omaha, NE 68179 Fax: (402) 271-4461 December 28, 2000

R. L. (Rick) Eades Director Environmental Field Ops-North (402) 661-6825

G. (Glenn) Thomas Director Environmental Field Ops-South (281) 350-7542

B. A. (Brock) Nelson Director Environmental Field Ops-West (916) 789-6370

File:

Vliets Industrial Lead Marshall County, Kansas Abandonment Environmental

State Contacts

Transportation Planning Bureau Kansas Department of Transportation Docking State Office Building 915 West Harrison Topeka, Kansas 66612

Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, Kansas 66604

<u>State Environmental Protection Agency</u>
Kansas Department of Health and Environment Forbes Field, Bldg 740 Topeka, Kansas 66620

State Coastal Zone Management Agency Not Applicable

<u>Head of each County</u> Marshall County Commissioners 1201 Broadway Marysville, KS 66508

Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, Kansas 66101

U.S. Fish & Wildlife
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service-Region 6 Assistant Regional Director Box 25486 Denver Federal Center Denver, Colorado 80225

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army Engineer Division-Kansas City District 700 Federal Building Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

National Park Service Mr. William D. Shaddox Chief, Land Resources Division National Park Service 800 North Capitol Street, NE., Room 540 Washington, DC 20002

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service Natural Resources Conservation Service 501 State Westmoreland, KS 66549

National Geodetic Survey
Director, Captain Lewis A. LaPine
National Geodetic Survey NOAA N/NGS Rm. 8687 1315 E-W Highway Silver Springs, MD 20910-3282

Other Agencies Consulted Wildlife & Parks Department 900 Southwest Jackson Street, #502 N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Water Resources Division 921 S Kansas Ave. FI 2 Topeka, Kansas 66612

RE: Proposed Abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead near Frankfort, Kansas

Dear Sirs:

Union Pacific Railroad plans to request authority from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to abandon the Vliets Industrial Lead from M.P. 408.5 near Frankfort, Kansas to the end of Track at M.P. 403.8 at Vliets, Kansas. A map of the proposed track abandonment shown in black is attached.

Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, and the environmental regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7, this is to request your assistance in identifying any potential effects of this action as indicated in the paragraphs below. If any adverse environmental impacts are identified, describe any actions that are proposed in order to mitigate the environmental impacts. Please provide us with a written response that can be included in an Environmental Report which will be sent to the STB.

LOCAL AND/OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES. State whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE. State the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (And State Game And Parks Commission, If Addressed). State (1) whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects, and, (2) whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

STATE WATER QUALITY OFFICIALS. State whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or Local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. State (1) whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and (2) whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (OR EQUIVALENT AGENCY). (1) Identify any potential effects on the surrounding area, (2) identify the location of hazardous waste sites and known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way and list the types of hazardous materials involved,

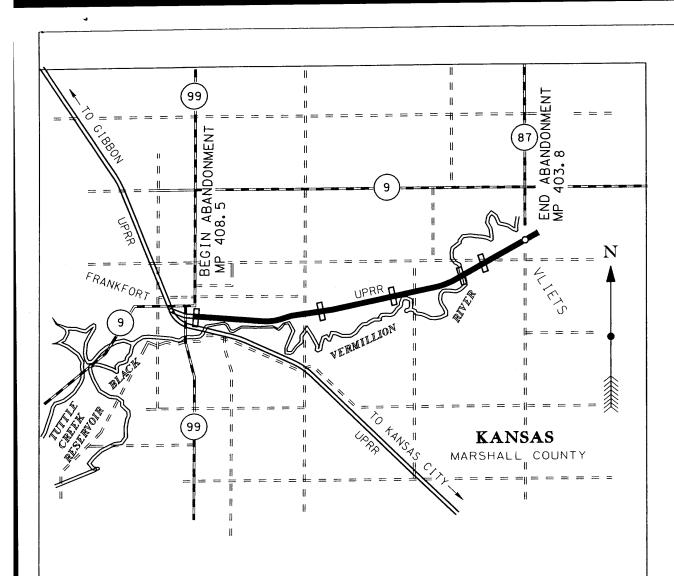
and (3) state whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. \S 1342) are required for the proposed action.

Thank you for your assistance. Please send your reply to Union Pacific Railroad, Mr. Chuck Saylors, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, Ne, 68179. If you need further information, please contact me at (402) 271-4078.

Yours truly,

Harry P. Patterson, P. E. Manager Environmental Site Remediation

Attachment



| DAIL |
|-----------------|
| 1950 |
| 1940 |
| 1923 |
| REBUILT 1943 |
| 1963 |
| 1897 |
| 1963 |
| |

VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD

MP 403.80 TO MP 408.50
VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD A TOTAL OF 4.70 MILES
IN MARSHALL COUNTY, KS.

| STATION | MILE POST | AGENCY |
|---------|-----------|--------|
| VLIETS | 404.00 | NO |

LEGEN D

UPRR LINES TO BE ABANDONED

UPRR LINES

OTHER RAILROADS

50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES = PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS

= OTHER ROADS

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CO.

VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD

INCL. 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES

SCALE MILES

Revised 12-19-00 ab0091

á.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

CHARLES W. SAYLORS
DIRECTOR-LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

1416 DODGE STREET OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68179 (402) 271-4861

(402) 271-5625 (FAX)



October 24, 2003

State Clearinghouse (or alternate):

Transportation Planning Bureau Kansas Department of Transportation Docking State Office Building 915 West Harrison Topeka, KS 66612

Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604

<u>State Environmental Protection Agency</u>: Kansas Department of Health and Environment Forbes Field, Bldg. 740 Topeka, KS 66620

State Coastal Zone Management Agency (if applicable):

Not Applicable

Head of County (Planning):

County Commissioners Marshall County Courthouse 1201 Broadway Marysville, KS 66508-1844

Environmental Protection Agency

(regional office):

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, KS 66101

U.S. Fish and Wildlife:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 6 Assistant Regional Director Box 25486 **Denver Federal Center** Denver, CO 80225

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Engineer Division - Kansas City District 700 Federal Building Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

National Park Service:

National Park Service William D. Shaddox Chief, Land Resources Division 1849 "C" St., N. W., #MS3540 Washington, DC 20240

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service:

Natural Resource Conservation Service 501 State Westmorland, KS 66549

National Geodetic Survey:

National Geodetic Survey Edward J. McKay, Chief Spatial Reference System Division NOAA N/NGS2 1315 E-W Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

State Historic Preservation Office:

Kansas State Historical Society 6425 SW Sixth Avenue Topeka, KS 66615

Other Agencies Consulted:

Wildlife & Parks Department 900 Southwest Jackson Street, \$502 N Topeka, KS 66612

Water Resources Division 921 S. Kansas Ave., FI 2 Topeka, KS 66612

Proposed Abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead from M. P. 409.1 near Re:

Frankfort to M. P. 403.8 near Vliets, a distance of 5.3 miles in Marshall

County, Kansas; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 172X)

Dear Sirs:

On December 28, 2000 Union Pacific Railroad Company sent you a letter indicating the intent to request authority from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to abandon its Vliets Industrial Lead from M.P. 408.5 near Frankfort, Kansas to the end of the line at M. P. 403.8 at Vliets, Kansas and we asked your assistance in identifying any potential effects of the action. Many of you responded that our proposed action would have no negative effect in your respective area of interest. Union Pacific did not go forward with its plans for the Vliets Industrial Lead in 2001.

Union Pacific again plans to request authority from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to abandon and discontinue service on the Vliets Industrial Lead extending an additional 0.6 mile to M.P. 409.1 near Frankfort and ending at M.P. 403.8 at Vliets, for a total of 5.30 miles in Marshall County, Kansas. A map of the proposed track abandonment shown in black is attached.

Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, and the environmental regulations at 40 C.F. R. Part 1105.7, this is to again request your assistance in identifying any potential effects of this action as indicated in the paragraphs below. We do not anticipate any adverse environmental impacts. However, if you identify any adverse environmental impacts, describe any actions that are proposed in order to mitigate the environmental impacts. Please provide us with a written response that can be included in an Environmental Report, which will be sent to the STB.

LOCAL AND/OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES. State whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

<u>U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE</u>. State the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

<u>U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (And State Game And Parks Commission, If Addressed)</u>. State (1) whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects, and, (2) whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

<u>STATE WATER QUALITY OFFICIALS</u>. State whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or Local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

<u>U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS</u>. State (1) whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and (2) whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

<u>U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND STATE</u> <u>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (OR EQUIVALENT AGENCY)</u>. (1) Identify any potential effects on the surrounding area, (2) identify the location of hazardous waste sites and known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way and list the types of hazardous materials involved, and (3) state whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action.

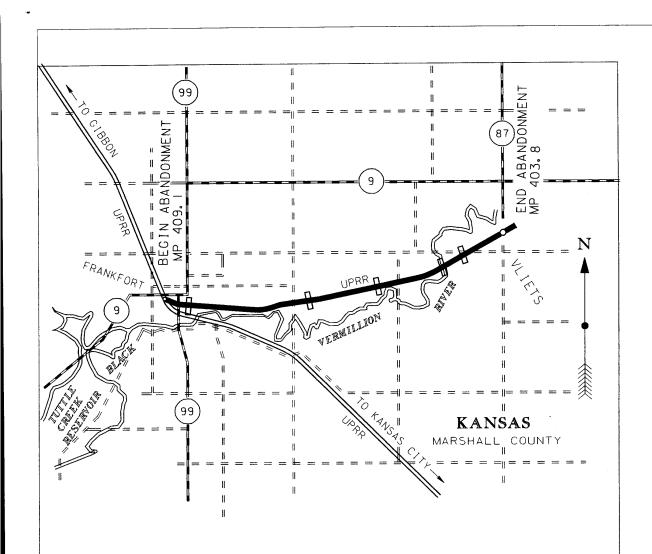
If you responded to our December, 2000 request, a copy of your response is attached. We will consider this response your current position unless you send a revised letter.

Thank you for your assistance. Please send your reply to Union Pacific Railroad, Mr. Chuck Saylors, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, NE, 68179. Id you need further information, please contact me at (402) 271-4861.

Yours truly,

Marles W. Saylors
Charles W. Saylors

Attachment



| BRIDGE NO. | BRIDGE TYPE | TOTAL LENGTH DA | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 404.70 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 27' | 1950 |
| 405.00 | TIMBER PILE TRES /THRU-PL.G. O.D. | 176' | 1940 |
| 406.00 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 126' | 1923 |
| 407.00 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 42' | REBUIL 1 |
| | TIMBER PILE TRES. /TST OPEN DECK | 34" | 1963 |
| 408.50 | DECK PLATE TRES. /D. P. G. OPEN DECK | 52' | 1897 |
| | TIMBED DILE TOES ATET ODEN DECK | 37' | 1963 |

VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD

MP 403.80 TO MP 409.1 VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD A TOTAL OF 5.30 MILES IN MARSHALL COUNTY, KS.

| STATION | MILE POST | AGENCY |
|---------|-----------|--------|
| VLIETS | 404,00 | NO |

Revised 10-23-03 ab009l vliets.dgn

| L E | GEND | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | UPRR LINES TO BE ABANDONE | D |
| | UPRR LINES | UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CO. |
| | OTHER RAILROADS | VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD |
| | 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES | INCL. 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES |
| | PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS | SCALE MILES |
| | OTHER ROADS | WILLS |

STATE OF KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

Operations Office
512 SE 25th Avenue
Pratt, KS 67124-8174
316/672-5911 FAX 316/672-6020



January 24, 2001

Mr. Chuck Saylors Union Pacific Railroad Company Room 930 1416 Dodge Street Omaha, NE 68179 Ref: D2.0401A Marshall

UPRR Abandonment

Track: 20010012

Dear Mr. Saylors:

We received the brief information submitted for the proposed abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead near Frankfort, Kansas and have discussed abandonment procedures with Mr. Harry Patterson of your office. The project was reviewed for potential impacts on crucial wildlife habitats, current state-listed threatened and endangered species and species in need of conservation, and public recreation areas for which this agency has some administrative authority.

Mr. Patterson indicated all work would take place with in existing UPRR right-of-way, erosion control BMP's would be utilized, and disturbed areas would be reseeded to native grasses. We concur with these project activities, as proposed.

Results of our review indicate there will be no significant impacts to crucial wildlife habitats; therefore, no special mitigation measures are recommended. The project will not impact any public recreational areas, nor could we document any potential impacts to currently listed threatened or endangered species or species in need of conservation. No Department of Wildlife and Parks permits or special authorizations will be needed if construction is started within one year, and no design changes are made in the project plans. Since the Department's recreational land obligations and the State's species listings periodically change, if construction has not started within one year of this date, or if design changes are made in the project plans, the project sponsor must contact this office to verify continued applicability of this assessment report. For our purposes, we consider construction started when advertisements for bids are distributed.

Sincerely,

Jim Hays, Gerrestrial Ecologist Environmental Services Section

JFH:md

xc: Region 2, Wolfe



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Kansas Field Office 315 Houston Street, Suite E

Manhattan, Kansas 66502-6172

November 24, 2003

Charles W. Saylors Director-Legal Support Services Union Pacific Railroad Company 1416 Dodge Street Omaha, NE 68179

RE: STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 172X)

Dear Mr. Saylors:

Your letter of October 24, 2003 to our Denver Regional Office, describing a proposed abandonment of 5.3 miles of existing railway line between Frankfort and Vliets, in Marshall County, Kansas, was forwarded to this office for review on November 3. We have reviewed this proposal and conclude that there should be no adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources, including threatened and endangered species. Therefore, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no objection to your proposal as planned.

The Service encourages the Union Pacific Railroad Company to keep the right-of-way in a natural condition for the benefit of native wildlife, plants, and the public. You may wish to contact the National Park Service, Omaha, Nebraska, 402-221-3350, for more information on the "Rails to Trails" Program. You may also wish to contact the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks in Pratt, Kansas (316-672-5911) to determine their interest in acquiring a nature trail.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on your proposal.

Sincerely,

William H. Gill Field Supervisor

Villiam H. Hill

KDWP, Pratt, KS (Environmental Services)

WHG/dwm

cc:

STATE OF KANSAS

BILL GRAVES, GOVERNOR Jamie Clover Adams, Secretary of Agriculture 109 SW 9th Street Topeka, Kansas 66612-1280 (785) 296-3558 FAX: (785) 296-8389



Division of Water Resources David L. Pope, Chief Engineer 109 SW 9th Street, 2nd Floor Topeka, KS 66612-1283 (785) 296-3717 FAX (785) 296-1176

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

January 22, 2001

Mr. Chuck Saylors Union Pacific Railroad 1416 Dodge Street Room 830 Omaha, Nebraska 68179

RE: DWR A-95

2001.001

Dear Mr. Saylors:

This will acknowledge receipt of your companies letter and attachments dated December 28, 2000 regarding the proposed abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead near Frankfort, Marshall County, Kansas.

If the proposed project includes the construction of any facility, levee, floodplain fill, or other structure which controls, regulates or changes the flood waters of a stream or watercourse in this state, it will be subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 24-126 or 24-105, both of which require plans for the project to be approved by the Chief Engineer of the Division of Water Resources prior to construction.

If the proposed project includes the construction of a dam, or if it in any way changes or diminishes the course, current or cross section of a stream or watercourse in this state, it is subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 82a-301 to 305a, which requires the issuance of a permit and approved by the Chief Engineer prior to construction.

If you have questions regarding water structures, please contact Dennis Lawlor at (785) 296-5440.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Lytle

Environmental Scientist Technical Services Section

RFL:drc

oc: Iona Branscum, Water Commissioner, Topeka Field Office



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS STATE REGULATORY PROGRAM OFFICE - KANSAS 2710 N.E. SHADY CREEK ACCESS ROAD EL DORADO, KANSAS 67042

January 9, 2001

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

Kanopolis Regulatory Field Office (200100495) (Marshall, KS, NPR)

Chuck Saylors Union Pacific Railroad Company 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830 Omaha, Nebraska 68179

Dear Mr. Saylors:

This is in response to your letter received on January 5, 2001, requesting a Department of the Army (DA) permit determination concerning the proposed abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead near Frankfort, Kansas. The project is located in Sections 13, 14, 15, and 16, Township 4 south, Range 9 east, and Sections 7 and 18, Township 4 south, Range 10 east, Marshall County, Kansas.

The Corps of Engineers has jurisdiction over all waters of the United States. Discharges of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States, including wetlands, require prior authorization from the Corps under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). The implementing regulation for this Act is found at 33 CFR 320-330.

By review of maps and other resources we have determined that the waterways involved exhibit discernable ordinary high water marks (OHWM). This is a preliminary jurisdictional determination and is not appealable. However, as described in Section E of the enclosed Notification of Administrative Appeal Options and Process and Request for Appeal form (FORM), you may request that we issue an approved jurisdictional determination, which is appealable as described in Section D of the FORM.

We have reviewed the information furnished and have determined that the abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead will not involve the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States. Therefore, Department of the Army permit authorization is not required. Other Federal, state and/or local permits may be required, however, and you should verify this yourself.

Ms. Cheryl Wanko, Environmental Protection Specialist, reviewed the information furnished and made this determination. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Ms. Wanko at 785-546-2130 (FAX 785-546-2050).

Enclosure

Copies Furnished:

Environmental Protection Agency,
Water Resources Protection Branch wo/enclosure
Kansas Department of Wildlife
and Parks wo/enclosure
Kansas Department of Agriculture wo/enclosure
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
wo/enclosure

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL

| Appli | cant: Union Pacific Railroad Company | File Number: 200100495 | Date: 9 Jan 01 |
|-------|--|------------------------|----------------|
| | hed is: | See Section below | |
| | INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard | A | |
| | PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission) | | В |
| | PERMIT DENIAL | | C |
| | APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERM | D | |
| XX | XX PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION | | Е |

SECTION I - The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at http://usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwo/reg or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.

- A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or object to the permit.
- ACCEPT: If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final
 authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your
 signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights
 to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- OBJECT: If you object to the permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the district engineer. Your objections must be received by the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice, or you will forfeit your right to appeal the permit in the future. Upon receipt of your letter, the district engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the district engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below.
- B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit
- ACCEPT: If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final
 authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your
 signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights
 to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- APPEAL: If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you
 may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this
 form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the
 date of this notice.
- C: PERMIT DENIAL: You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- D: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information.
- ACCEPT: You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the
 date of this notice, means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD.
- APPEAL: If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative
 Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received
 by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- E: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You do not need to respond to the Corps regarding the preliminary JD. The Preliminary JD is not appealable. If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

CHARLES W. SAYLORS DIRECTOR-LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES 1416 DODGE STREET OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68179 (402) 271-4861



October 24, 2003

Kansas State Historical Society 6425 SW Sixth Avenue Topeka, KS 66615

RE: Proposed Abandonment of the Vliets Industrial Lead from M. P. 409.1 near Frankfort to M. P. 403.8 near Vliets, a distance of 5.3 miles in Marshall County, Kansas; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 172X)

Dear Sir:

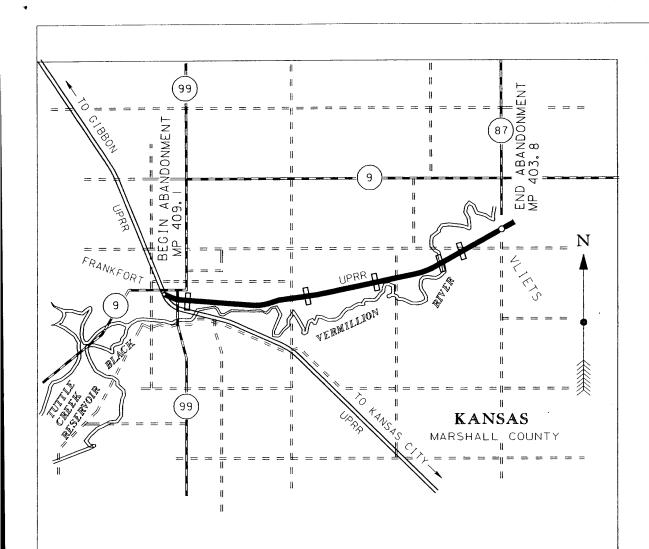
Enclosed for your review are fourteen photographs of the bridges located on the Vliets Industrial Lead which are 50 years or older along with a map of the proposed abandonment. The bridges are described as follows:

| Milepost | Description | Year Constructed |
|----------|--|------------------|
| 404.70 | Timber Pile Trestle/TST-O.D. Total Length: 27 Feet | 1950 |
| 405.00 | Timber Pile Trestle/Thru-PL.G. O.D. Total Length: 176 Feet | 1940 |
| 406.00 | Timber Pile Trestle/TST-O.D. Total Length: 126 Feet | 1923 |
| 407.00 | Timber Pile Trestle/TST-O.D. Total Length: 42 Feet | Rebuilt 1943 |
| 408.50 | Timber Pile Trestle/TST-O.D. Total Length: 34 Feet | 1963 |
| | Deck Plate Trestle/D.P.G. Open Deck Total Length: 52 Feet | 1897 |
| | Timber Pile Trestle/TST-O.D. Total Length: 37 Feet | 1963 |

Please advise if you believe there is any historical significance to any of the bridges. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Saylors
(402) 271-4861



| BRIDGE NO. | BRIDGE TYPE | TOTAL LENGTH | DATE |
|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| 404.70 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-O.D. | 27* | 1950 |
| 405.00 | TIMBER PILE TRES /THRU-PL.G. O.D. | 176' | 1940 |
| 406.00 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 126' | 1923 |
| 407.00 | TIMBER PILE TRESTLE /TST-0.D. | 42' | REBUIL 1 |
| | TIMBER PILE TRES. /TST OPEN DECK | 34' | 1963 |
| 408.50 | DECK PLATE TRES. /D. P. G. OPEN DECK | 52' | 1897 |
| l | TIMBER PILE TRES. /TST OPEN DECK | 37* | 1963 |

VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD

MP 403.80 TO MP 409.1 VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD A TOTAL OF 5.30 MILES IN MARSHALL COUNTY, KS.

| STATION | MILE POST | AGENCY |
|---------|-----------|--------|
| VLIETS | 404.00 | NO |

UPRR LINES TO BE ABANDONED

UPRR LINES

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CO.

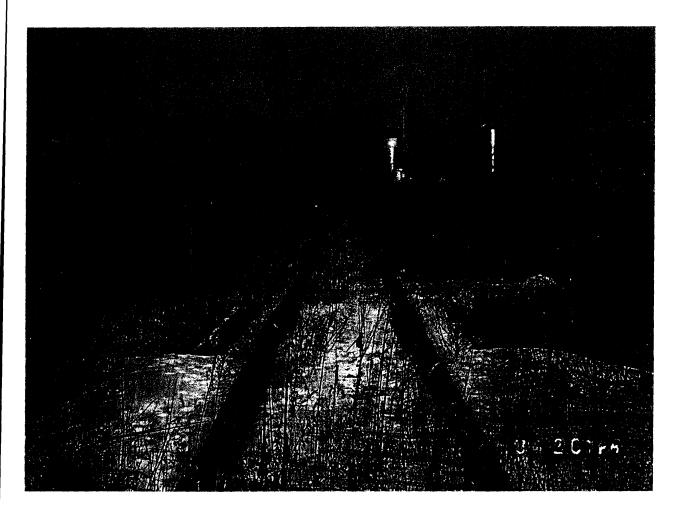
VLIETS INDUSTRIAL LEAD

INCL. 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES

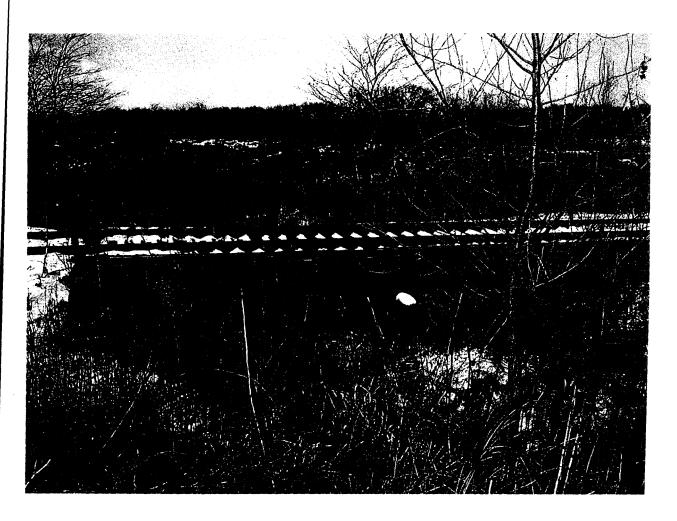
PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS

SCALE

Revised 10-23-03 ab0091 viiets.dgn



404.70 - Bridge Looking East



404.70 - Bridge



405.10 - Bridge Looking North

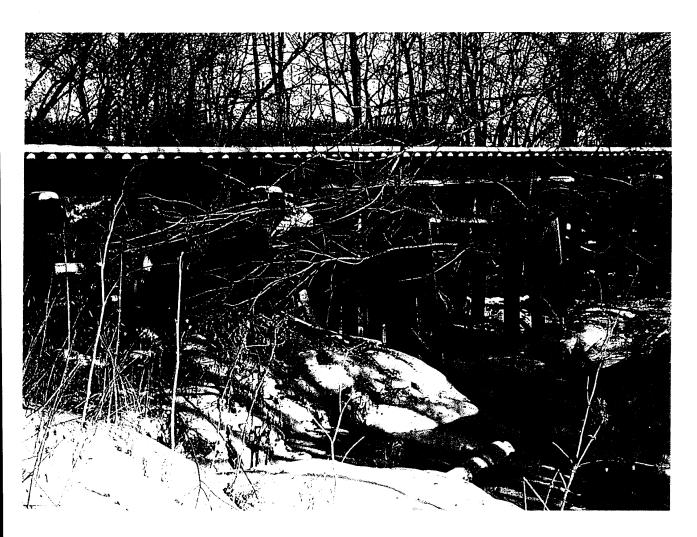


405.10 - Bridge Looking West 1



405.10 - Bridge Looking West 2

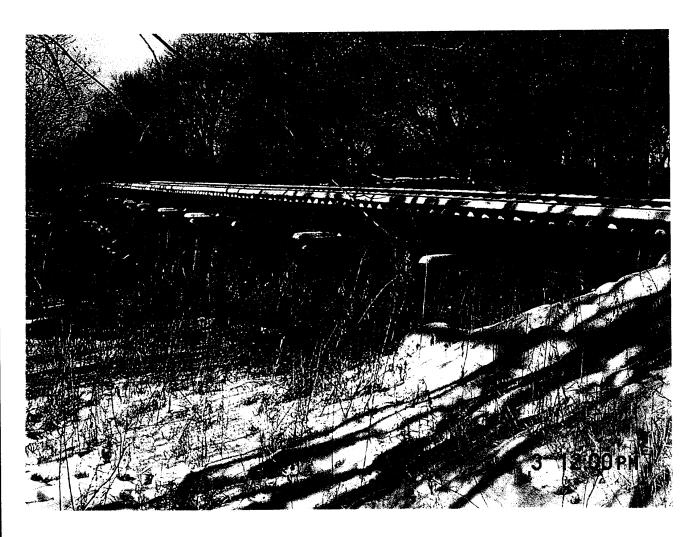




406.02 - Bridge Looking North



406.02 - Bridge Looking West



406.02 - Bridge



406.98 - Bridge Looking East



406.98 - Bridge Looking West

406.98 - Bridge

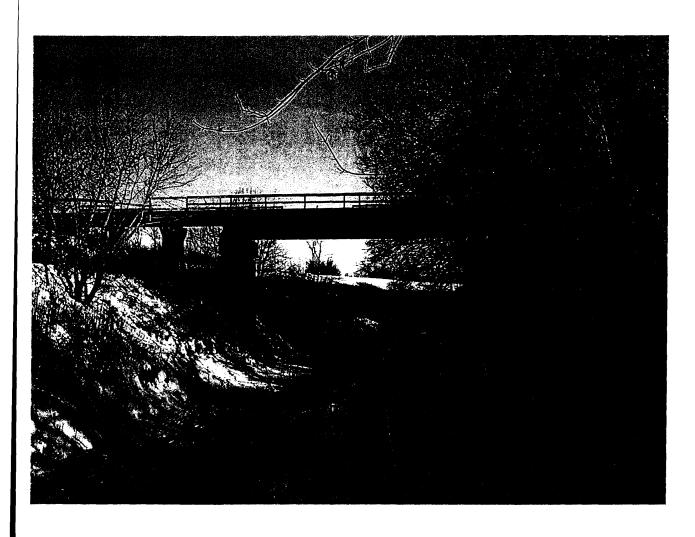


408.50 - Bridge A



408.50 - Bridge B





408.50 - Bridge C



KSR&C No. 03-10-152

Kansas State Historical Society Dick Pankratz, Director, Cultural Resources Divison KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

October 28, 2003

Charles W Saylors Union Pacific Railroad Co 1416 Dodge St Omaha NE 68179

RE: Abandon Vliets Industrial Lead From MP 409.1 to MP 403.8, Vliets Marshall County

Dear Mr. Saylors:

We have reviewed the project identified above and have determined that it should not affect any property listed on the National Register of Historic Places or otherwise identified in our files as having historical significance. This office has no objection to implementation of the project.

Sincerely yours,

Mary R. Allman

State Historic Preservation Officer

Richard Pankratz, Director Cultural Resources Division

clg

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